

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Hungary

REPORT NO.

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SUBJECT

Rákosi Armored Officers' Training
School at Tatatóváros

DATE DISTR.

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REQUIREMENT NO.

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REFERENCES

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DATE OF INFO.

PLACE ACQUIRED

The following formations are subordinate to the Rákosi Mátyás Armored Officers' School:

1. An armored training battalion in the new armored barracks near the Tatatóváros-Szomod road, two km. from Tatatóváros. The barracks complex consists of a guardhouse, a quarters building, a depot, and a garage for both tanks and cars. The construction of further buildings is planned. The barracks can now hold a complete armored battalion of 450 to 500 men. The battalion is not organized like a regular armored battalion.

- a. Commander is Capt. KUPPKA (fnu); the Chief of Staff is Lt. CSURKAS (fnu), and there is a staff of 26 to 28 men.

- b. The troops are a light S/P gun company commanded by Lt. FEKETE, 84 men strong, with twenty-one 76.2 mm. S/P guns; a heavy S/P gun company, commanded by Lt. KOZAK, 82 men strong, with ten 100 mm S/P guns; a light armored company commanded by First Lt. KAKAS, 165 men strong, with 27 light tanks with round turrets and simple driving gear; a heavy armored company commanded by Lt. TOTH, 130 men strong, with 11 or 12 T-34/85 tanks; an auto transport company commanded by First Lt. TUSAY, 95 to 100 men strong, with 9 Csepel motorcycles, 5 BMW motorcycles; 2 passenger cars; 2 traveling cranes; 2 Mavag-Diesel prime movers, 13 Wippon towing units; 48 Raba trucks.

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2. There is a guard company in the so-called old Infantry Barracks in Tata. It consists of 115 men, who are equipped with machine pistols. The company guards all military objects in Tata and Tatatóváros.

3. Commander of the school is Lt. Col. Ferenc FERENCZY

His adjutant is Capt. József MOLNAR.

The political officer is Major Gyula CSABA. The Communist Party representative is First Lt. BUZSIK.

- a. The training personnel consists of 60 persons. All instructors, officers, supporting personnel and men wear blue shoulder boards and a blue spot on the color, bearing the insignia of a tank.
- b. The students are divided into two groups. Members of the recruit group have had no prior military service. The refresher group consists of regular Army personnel with, at least, one year Army experience, preferably in armor.
- c. Students are constantly reminded that there is no guarantee that they will become armored officers. Persons who are not making satisfactory progress are eliminated from the school with noncommissioned officers' rating. Only a fraction of the 4,000 trainees graduate.
- d. The trainees are divided into 26 companies. The highest figure in a training company is 150 to 155. Each company is divided into three classes. The companies are designated by letters, and the classes under them by numbers M/1, M/2, M/3, etc.
- e. The school is quartered in the New Barracks on the Eszterházy estate. The rooms are comfortable and quiet. The equipment of the school is of the best quality.
- f. The barracks complex consists of five four-story buildings, 20 by 60 m; four three-story 40 by 40 m. officers' quarters, not altogether complete; two three-story staff buildings; numerous garages, depots and magazines; various officers' quarters and an officers' club; a building for the administrative command; a quartermaster's depot; a munitions magazine; a target range; and an area where tank driving is taught.
- g. Theoretical training is of secondary importance. Every officer is trained to be an expert in a specialized field. Type of training that will qualify one for higher commands is not given. Sports occupy two hours of the training period each day.
- h. There are no Russian military instructors at the school. They appear only to take charge of field exercises.
- i. Contingents of Hungarian infantry and artillery officers are steadily sent to the school to learn cooperation among the arms.
- j. The school works closely with the Honvéd auto repair shops in Budapest.
- k. The school has a big tankodrome northwest of the village of Szomod. This tankodrome is a big and hilly obstacle course, with two lanes for armored vehicles, each 10 by 20 m. broad. The tankodrome is equipped with loud-speakers and radios.
- l. The school also has a target range between the villages of Dunaszentmiklós and Szomod, where there are daily exercises. Firing is also held at night.

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